

St. Francis of Assisi CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

4300 Meeks Drive, Orange TX 77632

Office: 409-883-9153 • Fax: 409-883-9154

Web: www.stfrancisorangetx.org • Office Email: churchsec@gt.twcbc.com

 [Facebook.com/St.Francis.Church.Orange](https://www.facebook.com/St.Francis.Church.Orange)

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-3pm

Religious Education Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 10am-3pm Wednesday 3-7pm during RE

PASTOR: Rev. Sinclair K. Oubre, J.C.L.
pastorstfrancis@gt.twcbc.com

Deacon Hector Maldonado
Deacon Tommy Ewing
Deacon Keith Hebert

hmm19@yahoo.com
tewing@tbewingjr.com
khebert58@twc.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5pm ✕ Sunday: 8am Bilingual 10:30am

DAILY MASS

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:30am ✕ Wednesday: 6:00pm

RECONCILIATION: Saturday: 3:30-4:30pm

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the Pastor to make arrangements for Infant Baptisms. Baptism class is held the third Thursday of each month at 6:00pm. This can be done at least seven (7) months before the birth in order to make proper sacramental preparations.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Diocesan policy requires a minimum of six (6) months of sacramental preparations for marriage. Engaged couples are invited to call the Pastor for an appointment.

HOLY COMMUNION OR ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Pastor if you or any family members are ill or plan to be hospitalized to arrange the reception of the Sacraments.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS - Catechumenate

Those interested in becoming a Catholic or in completing their initiation are invited to contact Deacon Keith Hebert at the Church office to learn more about the Catechumenate Process.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Community! Please register by obtaining a census form from the Parish Office or at one of the two front entrances to the Church. Please return the census form to the Parish Office or drop in the collection basket. You may also register online at www.stfrancisorangetx.org. From the home page, click on the registration form. We look forward to the opportunity to know and serve you and it is our prayer that you will bless St. Francis Catholic Community with your time, talent, and treasure.

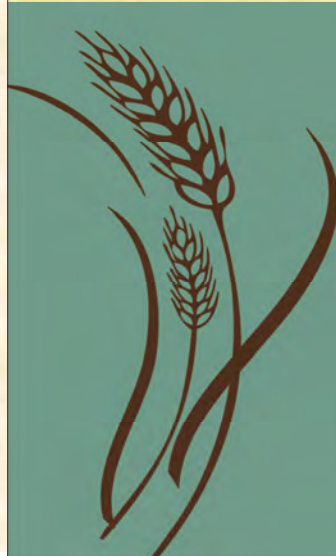


Jesus said,
“The kingdom of heaven
may be likened to a
man who sowed good
seed in his field.”

Matthew 13:24

July 19, 2020

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**



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GOOD SEEDS

Today Jesus continues to speak to his followers using parables. What a rich treasure we are given today in three parables about the kingdom of heaven! The kingdom is likened to a man sowing good seed in his field, a mustard seed, and yeast mixed with flour. As they did last week, today the disciples press Jesus for an interpretation of one of the parables—the parable of the man sowing good seed. Lest we think that these parables are simply amusing little anecdotes, Jesus’ interpretation should be seen for what it is—a warning. Wailing and grinding of teeth in a fiery furnace await those who are children of the evil one. This parable points to the struggle for today’s believer. Sometimes, through sin, we sow weeds and prevent the love of Christ from blossoming. Let today’s Gospel help put us back on track. Let us recommit ourselves to preparing for the last days, the harvest, by blossoming as the good seeds we were created in love to be.

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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: St. Apollinaris
- Tuesday: St. Lawrence of Brindisi
- Wednesday: St. Mary Magdalene
- Thursday: St. Bridget
- Friday: St. Sharbel Makhlūf
- Saturday: St. James

**SAINT SHARBEL MAKHLŪF (1828-1898)
July 24**

The convenience store owner chatted animatedly in Arabic with coworkers, but hardly at all with his American clientele. So soon after 9/11, he probably figured, with my accent, the less said, the better. That changed when an American customer recognized Saint Sharbel’s portrait on the wall: “So you’re Lebanese Maronites!” The owner was happily incredulous: “You know our saint?” “Not at first,” the customer admitted. “But we help the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, and their magazine published that picture and called Sharbel the ‘Paradoxical Artisan of Peace.’ ” “Everyone thinks we’re Muslims,” said the owner, “and some of my workers are. Saint Sharbel helps us live together in peace!” A hermit for twenty-three years, little is known of Sharbel’s life. He died after suffering a stroke while celebrating the liturgy. Miracles attributed to his intercession number in the thousands, and in war-torn Lebanon, Catholics, Orthodox, and Muslims pray together where his incorrupt body is entombed. How lovely if after our passing, we too could be remembered for having brought very different people to the one God, together in peace.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

July 20-26

MONDAY
20
Mi 6:1-4, 6-8
Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23
Mt 12:38-42

TUESDAY
21
Mi 7:14-15, 18-20
Ps 85:2-8
Mt 12:46-50

WEDNESDAY
22
Sg 3:1-4b
Ps 63:2-6, 8-9
Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

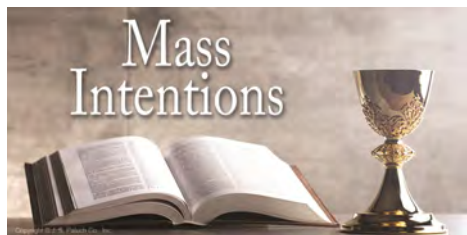
THURSDAY
23
Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13
Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-11
Mt 13:10-17

FRIDAY
24
Jer 3:14-17
Jer 31:10-12abcd, 13
Mt 13:18-23

SATURDAY
25
2 Cor 4:7-15
Ps 126:1bc-6
Mt 20:20-28

SUNDAY
26
1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12
Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77
127-130
Rom 8:28-30
Mt 13:44-52





Saturday July 18

5:00 p.m. Patricia Anderson (D)

Sunday July 19

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish

10:30 a.m. Gerald Beach (D)

Monday July 20

No Mass

Tuesday July 21

8:30 a.m. Mike DuChamp (L)

Wednesday July 22

6:00 p.m. Viola Watson (D)

Thursday July 23

8:30 a.m. Gerald Beach (D)

Friday July 24

8:30 a.m. Lutha Mae Pitre (D)

Saturday July 25

5:00 p.m. Jack Oldani (D)

Sunday July 26

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish

10:30 a.m. Jim Stimac (D)

**Church
Schedule**



Sunday, July 19

8:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass

10:30 a.m. Mass

Monday, July 20

No Mass

9:00-6:00 Church open

Tuesday, July 21

8:30 a.m. Mass

9:00-6:00 Church Open

Wednesday, July 22

9:00-6:00 Church Open

6:00 p.m. Mass

Thursday, July 23

8:30 a.m. Mass

9:00-6:00 Church Open

Friday, July 24

8:30 a.m. Mass

9:00-6:00 Church Open

Saturday, July 25

3:30-4:30 Confessions

5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, July 26

8:00 a.m. Bilingual Mass

10:30 a.m. Mass

July 19, 2020

**Altar Flowers
Donated by:**

*Kaylard LeBouef in memory of
Dorothy Hagy*

**Blessed Mother Flowers
Donated by:**

*Shelley Borel in loving memory of
my parents*

**St. Francis of Assisi
Stewardship of Treasure**

July 13, 2020

\$9,735.00

Online Giving

\$4,480.00

Thank you for your continued support!

VBS Update

Due to new directives from the diocese, Anchored VBS will be online.

Monday, July 20 & Tuesday, July 21 at 10 a.m., we will post the videos and lessons for day 1 and day 2 onto our St. Francis Facebook page. Everyone will be able to access the music videos, skits, and bible stories.

We will have t-shirts, crafts, and activities packaged up for the children who registered that can be picked up Sunday (July 19) after Mass, or anytime during office hours starting on July 20.

We are disappointed that we cannot see you in person, but excited for the opportunity to share in this faith-filled experience, even if in a limited capacity, with you!



Save the date

Sunday, August 9, 2020



St. Francis of Assisi Semi-Annual Blood Drive

LifeShare Blood Center will be here at the San Damiano Center from 8:00-1:00 p.m.

****LifeShare is in a dire need for blood and blood products.**

We ask you to please make this a priority and also invite anyone who is able to come.

Covid-19 is an airborne pathogen not a blood borne pathogen so it is safe to give blood.
They are also giving free covid-19 antibody test when you donate blood.

National NFP Awareness Week JULY 19 - JULY 25, 2020

NFP methods are different from and better than contraception.

NFP methods:

- have no harmful side effects
- are environmentally friendly
- are virtually cost free
- cooperate with, rather than suppress, a couple's fertility
- can be used both to achieve and avoid pregnancy
- call for shared responsibility and cooperation by husband and wife
- require mutual communication
- foster respect for and acceptance of the total person
- encourage maturity and the virtue of chastity
- value the child
- honor and safeguard the unitive and procreative meanings of married love.



In other words, there is a big difference between NFP and contraception. NFP, as opposed to contraception, does not deliberately frustrate the procreative potential of sex. So, NFP is morally acceptable while contraception is actually sinful and never morally right. NFP is unique because it enables its users to work with the body rather than against it. Fertility is viewed as a gift and reality to live, not a problem to be solved. Ultimately, NFP respects God's design for married love.

A Litany to Pray Frequently in Time of Health Pandemic

This may be prayed individually or in alternation with others.

*Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.*

*Christ, hear us. Christ, hear us.
Christ, graciously hear us. Christ, graciously hear us.*

*O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth, have mercy on us.
O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us.
O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful, have mercy on us.
O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God, have mercy on us.*

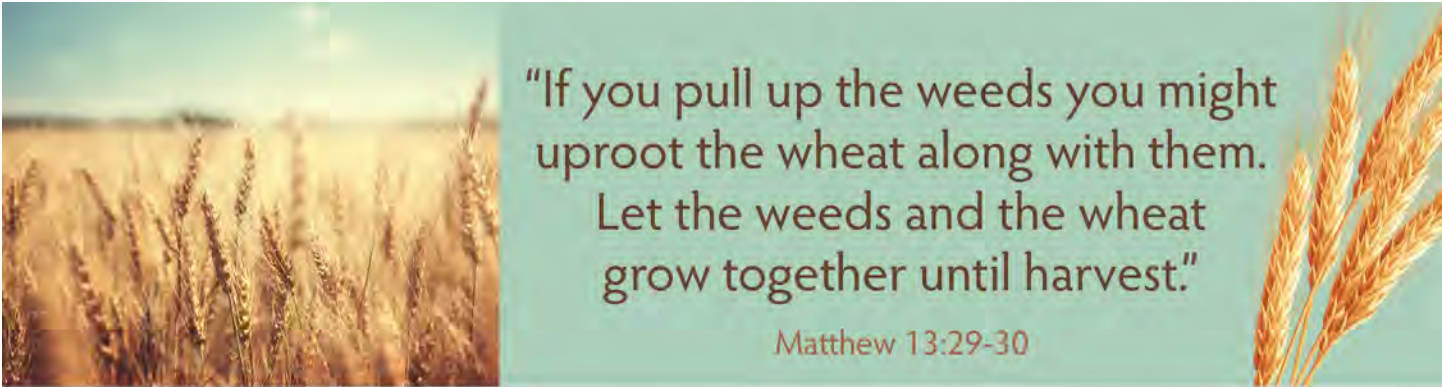
*From all evil, Lord, deliver us, we pray.
From every sin, Lord, deliver us, we pray.
From everlasting death, Lord, deliver us, we pray.
By your Incarnation, Lord, deliver us, we pray.
By your Death and Resurrection, Lord, deliver us, we pray.
By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Lord, deliver us, we pray.*

*Holy Mary, pray for us.
Holy Mother of God, pray for us.
Mother of the Church, pray for us.
Mother of Christians, pray for us.
Mother of the human family, pray for us.
Refuge of sinners, pray for us.
Comforter of the afflicted, pray for us.
Consolation of the lonely, pray for us.
Solace of the fearful, pray for us.
Hope of the poor, pray for us.
Health of the sick, pray for us.
Companion of the dying, pray for us.
Strength of caregivers, pray for us.
Help of Christians, pray for us.*

*Queen of angels, pray for us.
Queen of apostles, pray for us.
Queen of martyrs, pray for us.
Queen of virgins, pray for us.
Queen of all saints, pray for us.
Queen of Heaven, pray for us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, spare us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Lord.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

Compiled from liturgical and traditional sources by Anthony Ruff, Saint John's Abbey.



"If you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let the weeds and the wheat grow together until harvest."

Matthew 13:29-30

July
19
2020

Sixteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

FRESH LESSONS

Today we are faced with the powerful and almighty God, who deals with us, not out of anger and punishment, but out of kindness and forgiveness. God is forgiving and loving to those who ask and persevere in prayer. Even if we don't know how to pray, the Spirit of the Lord helps us, for God knows what the Spirit means, "because [the Spirit] intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will" (Romans 8:27). With God's help, we can be the good seed and not the weeds. If we contemplate the parables, and pray for the guidance of the Spirit, we are able to see ever fresher lessons in these stories.

PARABLES

These are the weeks of parables, and although we have heard them all many times, they never lose their freshness, for always, if we look, we can perceive a new angle.

The parable of the weeds and the wheat, so simple on its surface, is puzzling enough for the disciples to ask Jesus for an explanation. In our own gardens, we tend to yank up the weeds all through the growing season. But in the parable, the weeds and the wheat are allowed to grow together until the harvest. If the good people and the evil people remain mixed throughout life, it puzzles us sometimes: why are people who do bad things not punished? How is it that God allows bad things to happen to good people?

THOSE TINY THINGS

Our God is indeed a God of might; yet that might leads not to vengeance, but to forgiveness. Everyone is offered an opportunity—many opportunities—for forgiveness. Even a little good can blossom into something wonderful. The mustard seed of the Middle East is so tiny that one can barely pick one up with one's fingertips. (Those familiar with the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd know about this wonderful parable, and the tiny dish of mustard seeds that is kept in the atrium for the children to contemplate.) Yeast makes the dough rise to be baked into delicious bread. All of these wonders come from tiny beginnings, if we are ready to hear and understand these mysteries.

Our prayer too is heard by God, even if we do not really understand what we are praying for: "for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit . . . intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit" (Romans 8:26-27).

So if our small prayers are offered with a sincere heart, they are heard by God, even if we don't always know what it is we do when we pray. Are we praising, blessing God, asking for something? The Spirit knows and intercedes for us.

TODAY'S READINGS

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19
Psalm 86: 5-6, 9-10, 15-16
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-43 [24-30]



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Pre-Kindergarten~8th Grade

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The summer office hours are Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., and please leave a message if need be.

A new affordable tuition rate schedule has been adopted and scholarships are also available.



Kelly Catholic High School has a new principal, Dr. Teresa Shaffer

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Questions? Contact our Admissions Director at 409-866-2351 ext. 139
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